

X. *Descriptions of Micro-Lepidoptera from Mauritius and the Chagos Isles.* By E. MEYRICK, B.A., F.R.S.

[Read May 4th, 1910.]

THE specimens from Mauritius now described were collected by Lieut.-Colonel N. Manders during his residence in the island some years ago. They are of much interest, owing to the highly specialised character of the fauna, of which little has been made known hitherto, so far as the *Micro-Lepidoptera* are concerned. I believe that most of the native forest has now been destroyed, and the land placed under cultivation; but probably if a skilled collector would carefully examine the limited portions of forest, difficult of access, which still exist, and also the higher regions of the mountains, many species might still be recovered before extermination.

The Chagos Islands, though geographically not very remote, have no zoological affinity to Mauritius, but belong to the Indian region. The two species described here were collected by Mr. T. Bainbrigge Fletcher.

By the kindness of the above gentlemen the types are in my collection.

PYRAUSTIDAE.

SCOPARIA, Haw.

Scoparia benigna, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 15-16 mm. Head and thorax fuscous mixed with whitish. Palpi 2, dark fuscous, apex mixed with whitish, basal joint white. Antennal ciliations of ♂ minute. Abdomen grey-whitish. Forewings elongate-triangular, costa slightly arched, faintly sinuate in middle, apex obtuse, termen gently rounded, oblique; white, irregularly irrorated with fuscous; an irregular dark fuscous almost basal fascia; lines thick, white, first slightly curved, rather oblique, edged posteriorly with dark fuscous suffusion, second somewhat irregular, slightly curved, nearly direct, subterminal entire, almost touching second in middle; orbicular and clavi-

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form small, round, cloudy, dark fuscous, vertically placed; discal obscurely 8-shaped, outlined with dark fuscous, upper half suffused with fuscous and connected with a dark fuscous spot on costa, lower half incomplete and suffused with white: cilia white, basal third barred with fuscous. Hindwings pale brassy-whitish-ochreous; cilia white.

MAURITIUS; four specimens. A distinct species, rather of European type.

PTEROPHORIDAE.

TRICHOPTILUS, Wals.

Trichoptilus wahlbergi, Zell.

MAURITIUS; two specimens. Widely distributed, probably artificially introduced.

PLATYPTILIA, Hb.

Platyptilia brachymorpha, Meyr.

MAURITIUS; two specimens. Also very widely spread.

Platyptilia censoria, n. sp.

♂. 17 mm. Head and thorax pale brownish-ochreous mixed with whitish (damaged). Abdomen pale ochreous, marked with dark fuscous suffusion on sides towards middle. Forewings cleft from beyond $\frac{2}{3}$, segments broad, termen of first concave, of second somewhat rounded, oblique; whitish-ochreous mixed with whitish and sprinkled with brownish: an acute-triangular dark fuscous spot before cleft, apex directed anteriorly; a straight whitish subterminal line obscurely indicated, followed by stronger fuscous irroration: cilia whitish, on termen with basal third fuscous limited by a blackish line, with dark fuscous patches beneath lower angles of both segments and above upper angle of second, and two fuscous black-tipped scaleteeth on dorsum before and beyond cleft, with a few scattered black scales. Hindwings with segments moderately broad, termen of second sinuate; grey; cilia pale greyish, with a rather large triangular darker grey black-tipped scaletooth on middle of dorsum, and a few scattered black scales.

MAURITIUS; one specimen. Not closely approaching any other.

EUCOSMIDAE.

SPILONOTA, Steph.

Spilonota routhia, n. sp.

♂. 15-16 mm. Head and thorax fuscous or rather dark fuscous, slightly sprinkled with whitish. Antennae with notch at $\frac{1}{3}$. Abdomen fuscous, anal tuft fuscous-whitish. Forewings elongate, somewhat dilated posteriorly, costa gently arched, with strong fold reaching from base to $\frac{2}{3}$, apex obtuse, termen slightly rounded, rather oblique; brown, strigulated or mixed or almost wholly suffused with dark fuscous; costa posteriorly with four faint pairs of strigulae of whitish irroration; a broad irregular streak of whitish suffusion extending along dorsum from near base to tornus, before middle with a projection upwards formed by a tuft of whitish scales, before tornus interrupted by a spot of groundcolour; ocellus indicated by indistinct leaden-grey margins terminated beneath in the whitish suffusion, and sometimes containing two or three undefined longitudinal blackish marks; three or four small undefined blackish marks separated by whitish irroration on termen; cilia fuscous more or less suffused with dark fuscous, with rows of whitish points. Hindwings with 3 and 4 stalked; grey, rather thinly scaled, darker posteriorly, veins dark fuscous; cilia pale fuscous, more whitish towards tips.

MAURITIUS, one specimen; also three from Pusa, Bengal (Lefroy), and Maskeliya, Ceylon (Pole), in February and March; bred from larvae feeding on leaves of *Psidium guava*, with which tree the insect has doubtless been introduced into Mauritius. *S. smithiana*, Wals., from the West Indies, must be nearly allied to this, but is described as having two or three dark fuscous tufts about the submedian fold instead of the whitish tuft of this species, and a pale costal patch at end of costal fold.

RHOPOBOTA, Led.

Rhopobota physulodes, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 13-14 mm. Head whitish-ochreous, sometimes tinged with grey. Palpi pale ochreous, sometimes mixed with blackish. Thorax pale ochreous mixed with greyish, shoulders suffused with blackish. Abdomen grey. Forewings elongate-oblong, costa gently arched, in ♂ with dense erectile fringe of hairs lying on upper surface from base to $\frac{2}{3}$, apex obtuse, termen vertical, somewhat rounded-

prominent on lower half; pale ochreous, sometimes mixed with light grey-greenish and sprinkled with whitish, strewn with undefined strigulae of fuscous and dark fuscous irroration; quadrate spots outlined or suffused with dark fuscous on costa at base, $\frac{1}{4}$ and middle; in ♂ an oval fovea in disc from near base to $\frac{1}{3}$, filled with rough scales, edged posteriorly with dark fuscous suffusion; cilia dark grey, sprinkled with whitish points, towards base suffused with pale ochreous. Hindwings grey; veins dark grey; cilia grey.

CHAGOS ISLANDS, I. du Coin, in June, two specimens; also one from Galle, Ceylon, in April (Fletcher).

GELECHIADAE.

BRACHMIA, Hb.

Brachmia autonoma, n. sp.

♀. 12 mm. Head pale ochreous. Palpi whitish-ochreous, terminal joint with a few dark fuscous scales indicating basal and supramedian rings. Antennae pale ochreous suffusedly ringed with fuscous. Thorax light brownish-ochreous. Abdomen whitish-ochreous, tinged with grey. Forewings elongate, costa gently arched, apex obtuse, termen very obliquely rounded; 7 to apex, 8 and 9 out of 7; pale yellow-ochreous suffusedly mixed with light brownish; stigmata dark fuscous, plical somewhat before first discal; a small cloudy fuscous spot on dorsum beneath second discal; a row of dark fuscous dots round posterior part of costa and termen: cilia whitish-ochreous tinged with brownish. Hindwings pale greyish; cilia ochreous-grey-whitish.

CHAGOS ISLANDS; one specimen.

METACHANDIDAE.

METACHANDA, Meyr.

Metachanda fimbriata, n. sp.

♀. 15-16 mm. Head and thorax dark purple-fuscous, with an ochreous-yellow line above eyes. Palpi ochreous-yellowish mixed with dark fuscous. Forewings elongate, costa gently arched, apex obtuse, termen very obliquely rounded; dark purple-fuscous; an irregular transverse somewhat oblique blackish bar representing first

discal and plical stigmata, edged posteriorly with light ochreous-yellowish, not reaching costa or dorsum ; an undefined oval blackish spot representing second discal, enclosing an incompletely indicated 8-shaped mark of light ochreous-yellowish suffusion ; a light yellowish spot on costa at $\frac{3}{4}$, whence an outwards-curved series of pale yellowish dots preceded by some blackish suffusion runs to tornus : cilia grey, basal third dark fuscous obscurely barred with pale yellowish. Hindwings whitish, posterior half grey ; cilia grey, becoming ochreous-whitish towards tornus and dorsum.

MAURITIUS, Les Mares (a swampy piece of original forest), in December ; two specimens.

TARAGMARCHA, n. g.

Head with appressed scales ; ocelli present ; tongue developed. Antennae 1, basal joint long, slender, without pecten. Labial palpi very long, recurved, second joint expanded with long rough projecting scales above and towards apex beneath, terminal joint much longer than second, slender, acute. Maxillary palpi very short, filiform, appressed to tongue. Posterior tibiae clothed with rough scales above. Forewings with 2 from angle, 3 absent, 7 absent, 11 from middle. Hindwings $\frac{2}{3}$, elongate, apex obtuse, termen rounded, cilia 2 ; 3 and 4 connate, 5 nearly parallel, 6 absent.

Taragmarcha laqueata, n. sp.

♀. 17 mm. Head and thorax rather dark glossy fuscous, face mixed with white. Palpi white, second joint mixed with dark fuscous, anterior edge of terminal joint dark fuscous. Antennae whitish ringed with dark fuscous. Abdomen grey. Forewings elongate, costa gently arched, apex obtuse, termen very obliquely rounded ; rather dark glossy fuscous ; a white streak along basal third of costa, thence slightly outwards-curved to dorsal beyond middle ; an inwards-curved white line from $\frac{2}{3}$ of costa to dorsum before tornus, dilated on costal half into an oblique patch ; a series of four elongate confluent whitish spots crossing wing close before apex : cilia grey-whitish, towards tornus fuscous, basal third white round apex and termen to near tornus, and with white marks on extremities of postmedian line. Hindwings rather dark grey ; cilia grey.

MAURITIUS, Les Mares, in December, one specimen ; also a second much damaged, apparently without the costal extension of the white anterior streak, but probably identical.

TANYCHASTIS, n. g.

Head with appressed scales; ocelli absent; tongue developed. Antennae over 1, in ♂ simple, basal joint moderate, without pecten. Labial palpi long, recurved, second joint with appressed scales, terminal joint shorter than second, slender, acute. Maxillary palpi very short, filiform, appressed to tongue. Posterior tibiae smooth-scaled, with some rough scales towards base above. Forewings with 2 from towards angle, 7 absent, 11 from before middle. Hindwings $\frac{3}{4}$, elongate-ovate, cilia $1\frac{1}{4}$; 3 and 4 connate, 5 somewhat approximated, 6 absent.

Tanychastis lysigama, n. sp.

♂. 9 mm. Head and thorax dark bronzy-fuscous. Palpi, antennae, and abdomen dark fuscous. Forewings elongate, rather narrow, costa anteriorly straight, posteriorly gently arched, apex rounded-obtuse, termen rounded, rather strongly oblique; dark fuscous; a somewhat irregular white transverse line from costa at $\frac{1}{3}$, reaching $\frac{2}{3}$ across wing; a fine white inwards-curved line from $\frac{3}{4}$ of costa to tornus, interrupted beneath costa and above tornus: cilia dark fuscous, tips whitish at apex. Hindwings and cilia dark fuscous.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

ANCYLOMETIS, Meyr.

Ancylometis trigonodes, Meyr.

MAURITIUS; three specimens. In the hindwings veins 3 and 4 are sometimes coincident, but 5 remains separate.

Ancylometis dilucida, n. sp.

♂. 16 mm. Head, palpi, antennae, and thorax dark fuscous. Abdomen light fuscous, anal tuft ochreous. Forewings elongate, costa gently arched, apex obtuse, termen obliquely rounded; dark purplish-fuscous, with a few scattered whitish-ochreous scales; a transverse ochreous-yellowish streak about $\frac{1}{5}$, suffused posteriorly, angulated near dorsum, sending from its angle an undefined streak of whitish-ochreous suffusion to dorsum beyond middle; an undefined patch of blackish suffusion in disc before middle, a smaller spot about $\frac{2}{3}$ (these represent the stigmata), a spot between and beneath these, and a spot on dorsum at $\frac{2}{3}$, all with some adjacent groups of whitish-ochreous or light yellowish scales; a cloudy whitish-ochreous transverse mark on costa at $\frac{3}{4}$, whence an abruptly curved series of scattered whitish-ochreous scales, preceded by some blackish suffusion, runs to tornus: cilia fuscous, on basal half dark

fuscous with some whitish-ochreous scales at intervals. Hindwings with ridge and groove along lower margin of cell; pale fuscous, becoming fuscous on posterior half; cilia whitish-fuscous, becoming whitish-ochreous on lower part of termen and dorsum, with fuscous subbasal shade.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

COSMOPTERYGIDAE.

COSMOPTERYX, Hb.

Cosmopteryx dacryodes, n. sp.

♂. 7 mm. Head dark bronzy-fuscous, crown with three fine white lines, face pale bronzy. Palpi white lined with black. Antennae blackish, towards base lined with white, four apical joints white, then five black, two white, one black, two white. Thorax dark bronzy-fuscous, with three fine white lines. Abdomen greyish-ochreous, anal tuft black on sides. Posterior tibiae black, with white median and apical rings, and a silvery ring between these. Forewings narrowly lanceolate, apex slenderly very long-produced, caudate; blackish; dorsal edge finely white towards base; subcostal, median, and subdorsal very short snow-white dashes arranged in an oblique series about $\frac{1}{4}$, widely remote from base and band, subcostal fine, others thicker than usual; a broad orange postmedian transverse band, anteriorly edged by a vertical golden-metallic fascia followed above middle by a minute black speck, and posteriorly on lower half by a golden-metallic spot edged with black anteriorly, above posterior edge of which is a blackish dot on costa and some whitish suffusion in costal cilia, between these a narrow orange projection extends to termen, and is continued as a white streak along termen to apex: cilia dark violet-grey. Hindwings and cilia dark violet-grey.

MAURITIUS; one specimen. Probably nearest to the African *C. cognita*, Wals.

Cosmopteryx mimetis, Meyr.

MAURITIUS; two specimens. A very widely distributed species, probably attached to some plant of cultivation.

STAGMATOPHORA, HS.

Stigmatophora coriacella, Snell.

MAURITIUS; four specimens, bred from larvae feeding in the pods of the cotton-plant, with which the species has been introduced from India.

IDIGLOSSA, Wals.

Idioglossa bigemma, Wals.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

OECOPHORIDAE.

EPIPHRACTIS, Meyr.

Epiphractis amphitricha, n. sp.

♂. 22 mm. Head and thorax rosy-grey. Palpi dull flesh-colour irrorated with grey. Antennae simple, grey. Abdomen light grey, anal tuft grey-whitish. Forewings suboblong, costa rather strongly arched, apex obtuse, termen nearly straight, little oblique; on lower surface with a fringe of extremely long hairs directed downwards from vein 12 except towards extremities; dull light brownish-crimson, with some scattered fuscous scales; an inwardly oblique purplish-fuscous streak from dorsum beyond middle, reaching $\frac{3}{4}$ across wing; a cloudy purplish-fuscous dot in disc beyond $\frac{2}{3}$, and a short inwardly oblique streak from tornus: cilia light greyish-crimson. Hindwings ochreous-whitish, slightly crimson-tinged towards termen; a long subcostal pencil of ochreous-whitish hairs lying along upper margin of cell beneath forewings; cilia ochreous-whitish.

MAURITIUS, Les Mares, in December; one specimen.

GRACILARIADAE.

ACROCERCOPS, Wallgr.

Acrocercops macrochalca, n. sp.

♂. 10 mm. Head white. Palpi white, second joint dark fuscous towards apex, with a short apical projection of scales beneath. Thorax white, patagia golden-fulvous. Abdomen light ochreous-grey. Forewings very narrowly elongate, apex rather short-pointed; golden-orange-fulvous; costal third occupied by a suffused shining brassy-golden streak from base to near apex; three narrow rounded snow-white spots lying along dorsum, strongly black-edged above, connected on dorsal edge, first short, from base, second longest, third reaching tornus, a fourth similar disconnected spot along termen; a white striga along posterior part of costa into apex: cilia light greyish-ochreous, base suffused with orange-fulvous, at apex with

a fine white strigula edged with blackish, on costa with a blackish basal line. Hindwings grey; cilia greyish-ochreous.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

GLYPHIPTERYGIDÆ.

CHOREUTIS, Hb.

Choreutis bjerkandrella, Thmb.

MAURITIUS; two specimens.

GLYPHIPTERYX, Hb.

Glyphipteryx ditiorana, Walk.

MAURITIUS; two specimens.

TINEIDÆ.

BEDELLIA, Stt.

Bedellia somnulentella, Z.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

LYONETIA, Hb.

Lyonetia carcinota, n. sp.

♀. 10 mm. Head, palpi, antennae, and thorax silvery-white, scales of crown slightly rough behind fillet. (Abdomen broken). Forewings very narrowly elongate, short-pointed, apex slightly produced, acute; light glossy ochreous; basal third silvery-white; an oblique white wedged-shaped mark from dorsum beyond middle of wing, anteriorly edged with dark grey, reaching $\frac{2}{3}$ across wing, and a similar smaller mark from termen beyond tornus; five very small white spots on posterior third of costa, last preceding a small round black apical spot mostly in cilia; cilia pale grey, round apex suffused with whitish, with two diverging black apical hooks. Hindwings rather dark grey; cilia grey.

MAURITIUS; one specimen. Allied to *L. probolactis* from the Seychelles, and slightly more primitive in character.

HIEROXESTIS, Meyr.

Hieroxestis phaeochalca, Meyr.

MAURITIUS; three specimens. Also in Réunion, the Seychelles, and South Africa.

Hieroxestis praematura, Meyr.

MAURITIUS; four specimens. Also in South Africa.

Hieroxestis subcervinella, Walk.

MAURITIUS; one specimen. Also in the Seychelles..

OINOPHILA, Stph.

In some of the following species the frontal and occipital tufts are drawn together so as to conceal the fillet, but the structure of the head remains peculiar and characteristic, the lower part of face and back of crown being smooth, and the two tufts being really separate at origin. Besides the type-species, which is now common to Europe and Africa but probably originally African, and a second described form probably scarcely distinct, there are only three other species known, all from the Seychelles; the five now added are therefore in themselves a majority of the genus.

Oinophila siccata, n. sp.

♂. 9-10 mm. Head grey-whitish, occipital tuft with a grey bar. Palpi grey-whitish, externally with a dark fuscous line. Antennae whitish. Thorax whitish, with shoulders blackish, a black anterior bar between patagia, and three posterior black dots arranged in a triangle. (Abdomen broken.) Forewings elongate-lanceolate, apex produced, acute, downturned; pale grey sprinkled with whitish points; costa marked with irregularly placed short somewhat oblique black strigulae; a small round black spot on base of fold; a group of three or four black dots near beyond this, two above and below fold at $\frac{1}{4}$, and two rather larger in disc at $\frac{2}{5}$ and $\frac{3}{5}$; a short blackish dash towards costa at $\frac{4}{5}$; apex suffused with whitish and marked with black: cilia ochreous-grey-whitish, on costa towards apex with a black basal line. Hindwings dark violet-grey, with a whitish patch occupying basal $\frac{2}{5}$; a long grey hairpencil from base lying along costa beneath forewings; cilia grey-whitish.

MAURITIUS; two specimens.

Oinophila trieysta, n. sp.

♀. 9 mm. Crown whitish-ochreous with a dark brownish central stripe, occipital tuft whitish-ochreous, dark fuscous in centre beneath, fillet and face shining whitish, frontal tuft dark fuscous. Palpi whitish. Thorax dark brownish, with two whitish-ochreous stripes. Abdomen light fuscous. Forewings elongate-lanceolate, apex slenderly long-produced, acute, downturned; rather dark bronzy-brown; three rather suffused whitish-ochreous longitudinal stripes, viz. one costal from base to middle, one rather above middle from base to $\frac{3}{4}$, and one dorsal somewhat mixed with groundcolour from base to tornus; costal edge ochreous-whitish from about $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$, where it forms a short fine very oblique strigula; an elongate-triangular whitish-ochreous spot along lower portion of termen; an ochreous-whitish dot on termen beneath apex: cilia pale whitish-ochreous. Hindwings grey; cilia whitish-ochreous-grey.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

Oinophila pentacarpa, n. sp.

♂. 10 mm. Head bronzy-fuscous, tufts ochreous mixed centrally with dark fuscous, face whitish-bronzy. Palpi fuscous, internally whitish. Antennae greyish, towards base white sharply lined with black. Thorax dark fuscous. (Abdomen broken.) Forewings elongate-lanceolate, apex somewhat produced, acute hardly downturned; dark purple-fuscous, strewn with scattered whitish-ochreous long hairscales; five roundish whitish-ochreous spots, viz. three beneath costa on anterior half, one beneath costa towards apex, and one on tornus: cilia pale greyish-ochreous, base mixed with dark fuscous. Hindwings light grey; cilia pale greyish-ochreous.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.

Oinophila fragosa, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 9-10 mm. Crown whitish-ochreous, sides whitish, tufts united to conceal fillet, whitish-ochreous infuscated in middle, face whitish. Palpi whitish, second joint with a fuscous lateral line, terminal joint infuscated. Thorax whitish-ochreous with two white stripes, patagia dark bronzy-fuscous. Abdomen greyish. Forewings elongate-lanceolate, apex produced, acute, downturned; dark bronzy-fuscous; a white streak partially tinged with yellowish running along dorsum and termen from base to near apex, broadest towards posterior part of dorsum, upper edge somewhat prominent at $\frac{1}{4}$ and forming an angular prominence at $\frac{2}{3}$, where it reaches half across wing, beyond this very narrow; two very oblique white strigae

from costa posteriorly, not reaching termen; extreme apex suffused with blackish; cilia whitish, beneath apex suffused with fulvous at base, opposite apex with a blackish subbasal line. Hindwings light grey; cilia grey-whitish, greyer towards base.

MAURITIUS; three specimens.

Oinophila syntricha, n. sp.

♂. 10 mm. Head ochreous-whitish, crown with a central yellow-ochreous stripe, tufts united to conceal fillet, mixed with pale ochreous. Palpi whitish-ochreous. Thorax fulvous-ochreous, with two whitish stripes. Abdomen whitish-ochreous. Forewings elongate-lanceolate, apex acute, slightly downturned; fulvous-ochreous, irregularly and suffusedly strigulated with ochreous-whitish, especially along costa; a more or less complete line of black scales along submedian fold; cilia whitish-ochreous, suffused with fulvous-ochreous towards base, round apex with a darker median line. Hindwings pale grey; cilia ochreous-whitish tinged with grey towards base.

MAURITIUS; two specimens.

SAPHENEUTIS, Meyr.

Sapheneutis cubitalis, n. sp.

♂. 15 mm. Head and thorax pale greyish-ochreous tinged with brownish and sprinkled with fuscous, shoulders suffused with dark fuscous. Antennal ciliations minute. Palpi moderately long, pale greyish-ochreous irregularly sprinkled with dark fuscous. Abdomen pale greyish, anal tuft pale ochreous. Forewings elongate, costa gently arched, apex obtuse, termen slightly rounded, oblique; all veins separate, 7 to apex; pale greyish-ochreous suffused with light brownish; costa dotted with dark fuscous on anterior half, and with five small blackish spots on posterior half; some scattered dark fuscous strigulae towards costa anteriorly; an irregular dark fuscous streak from base above middle to $\frac{1}{3}$; an irregular dark fuscous streak from $\frac{3}{4}$ of costa to before middle of dorsum, obtusely angulated outwards below middle of wing; a terminal series of blackish dots; cilia ochreous-whitish tinged with brownish and sprinkled with fuscous and dark fuscous, at apex with a dark fuscous spot. Hindwings light grey with brassy reflections; cilia ochreous-whitish tinged with grey.

MAURITIUS; one specimen.